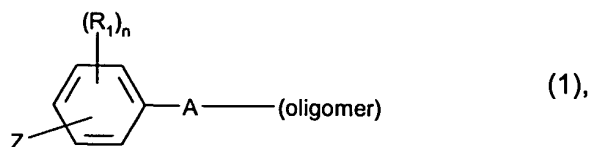


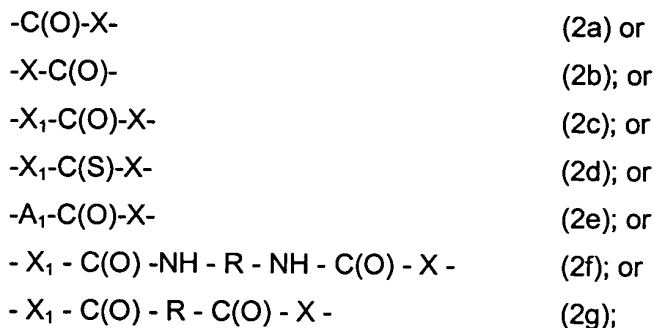
## SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 1, line 29 and ending at page 4, line 6 as follows:

The present invention therefore in one aspect relates to a compound of formula



wherein  $R_1$  is an electron-withdrawing substituent and  $n$  is an integer from 0 to 2,  
 $Z$  is a group which functions as a triggerable precursor for carbene or nitrene formation;  
 $A$  is a radical of formula



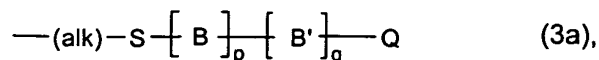
$X$  and  $X_1$  are each independently of the other a group  $\text{---O---}$  or  $\text{---NR}_2\text{---}$ , wherein  $R_2$  is hydrogen or  $\text{C}_1\text{---C}_4\text{---alkyl}$ ;

$A_1$  is  $\text{C}_2\text{---C}_{30}\text{---alkyl}$  which may be interrupted by  $\text{---O---}$ ;

$R$  is linear or branched  $\text{C}_1\text{---C}_{18}\text{---alkylene}$  or unsubstituted or  $\text{C}_1\text{---C}_4\text{---alkyl-}$  or  $\text{C}_1\text{---C}_4\text{---alkoxy-}$  substituted  $\text{C}_6\text{---C}_{10}\text{---arylene}$ ,  $\text{C}_7\text{---C}_{18}\text{---aralkylene}$ ,  $\text{C}_6\text{---C}_{10}\text{---arylene---C}_1\text{---C}_2\text{---alkylene---C}_6\text{---C}_{10}\text{---arylene}$ ,  $\text{C}_3\text{---C}_8\text{---cycloalkylene}$ ,  $\text{C}_3\text{---C}_8\text{---cycloalkylene---C}_1\text{---C}_6\text{---alkylene}$ ,  $\text{C}_3\text{---C}_8\text{---cycloalkylene---C}_1\text{---C}_2\text{---alkylene---C}_3\text{---C}_8\text{---cycloalkylene}$  or  $\text{C}_1\text{---C}_6\text{---alkylene---C}_3\text{---C}_8\text{---cycloalkylene---C}_1\text{---C}_6\text{---alkylene}$ ; and

(oligomer) is

(i) the radical of a telomer of formula



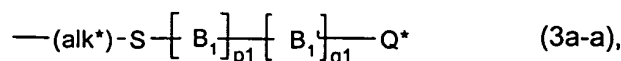
wherein (alk) is  $\text{C}_2\text{---C}_{12}\text{---alkylene}$ ,

$Q$  is a monovalent group that is suitable to act as a polymerization chain-reaction terminator,

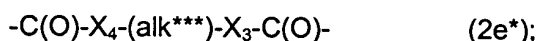
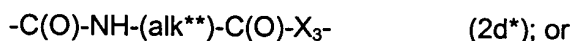
p and q are each independently of another an integer from 0 to 750, wherein the total of (p+q) is an integer from 2 to 750,

and B and B' are each independently of the other a 1,2-ethylene radical derivable from a copolymerizable vinyl monomer by replacing the vinylic double bond by a single bond, at least one of the radicals B and B' being substituted by a hydrophilic substituent; or

(i-i) the radical of a telomer of formula



wherein (alk\*) Q\*, p1 and q1 each independently have the meaning of (alk), Q, p and q, B<sub>1</sub> is a 1,2-ethylene radical derivable from a copolymerizable vinyl monomer by replacing the vinylic double bond by a single bond, which is substituted by a radical -T-(oligomer<sup>1</sup>), wherein (oligomer<sup>1</sup>) independently is a radical of formula (3a) above and T is a direct bond or a radical of formula



T<sub>1</sub> is -O-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkylene which is unsubstituted or substituted by hydroxy, or is -O-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkylene-NH-C(O)- or -O-C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkylene-O-C(O)-NH-R<sub>13</sub>-NH-C(O)-, wherein R<sub>13</sub> independently has the meaning of R above;

T<sub>2</sub> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-alkylene; phenylene or benzylene;

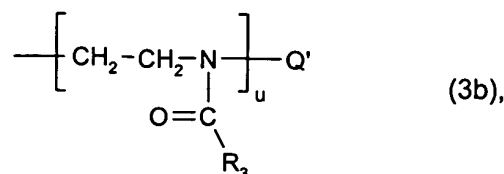
X<sub>3</sub> and X<sub>4</sub> are each independently of the other a bivalent group -O- or -NR<sub>2</sub>', wherein R<sub>2</sub>' is hydrogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl;

(alk<sup>\*\*</sup>) is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylene and (alk<sup>\*\*\*</sup>) is C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkylene, and

m and x are each independently of the other the number 0 or 1; and

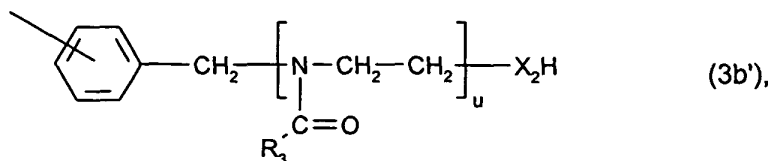
B<sub>1</sub>' independently has the meaning of B<sub>1</sub> or B;

(ii) the radical of an oligomer of the formula



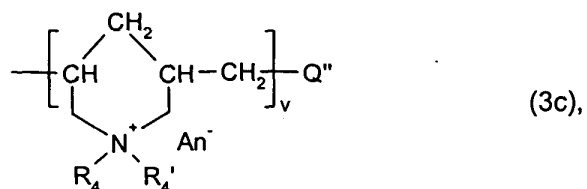
wherein R<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen or unsubstituted or hydroxy-substituted C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>-alkyl, u is an integer from 2 to 750 and Q' is a radical of a polymerization initiator; or

(iii) the radical of formula



wherein  $\text{X}_2$  independently has the meaning of X above, and  $\text{R}_3$  and  $u$  are as defined above, or

(iv) the radical of an oligomer of formula



wherein  $\text{R}_4$  and  $\text{R}_4'$  are each independently  $\text{C}_1$ - $\text{C}_4$ -alkyl,  $\text{An}^-$  is an anion,  $v$  is an integer from 2 to 750, and  $\text{Q}''$  is a monovalent group that is suitable to act as a polymerization chain-reaction terminator;

subject to the proviso that A is not a radical of formula (2b) if (oligomer) is a radical of formula (3b) or (3c).